

Rapporteur Grace

Key issues from morning session – day 1:

- Alexandra: 91% of Luxembourg people agreed to continue funding effort from their taxes for Development Aid
- CSO coalition for EYD2015 > continue beyond 2015 > ownership of project
- DG: EU even funds projects in the US > promoting the end of death penalty
> CSO have a big part on taking the new SDGs and pushing them forward
- 'Challenging the crisis' > lead my youngsters motivation to contribute to social change
VS. Youth in other contexts are forced to things as being child-soldiers, suicide bombers, political thugs to create chaos during elections
- encouraged to work with formal school systems as platforms to engage citizens >> face-to-face as opposed to proliferation of on-line, social media interactions > builds confidence and trust, sharing
- Personal remark: "I have touched and felt the European Commission's commitment to Development Education – what else can I ask for?"

Rapporteur Emil

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the concluding session of the DEAR FAIR as rapporteur. What do I take home with me? I want to start saying: From the very beginning I felt a big hospitality and positive atmosphere. We were received by smiling faces and a good humoured always helpful organisation team. So I want to take the opportunity to thank you and your team for the very positive atmosphere and the excellent organisation of the Fair.

For me the DEAR Fair is the unique opportunity to get an overview of the variety and content of running DEAR projects and the activities being carried through in cooperations all over Europe. It is very valuable to get to know people and organisations implementing the projects. It is a very good opportunity to exchange views and informations and to get to know the specific working areas and focus of participating organisations.

During the plenary sessions many key notes indicated the growing importance of DEAR, as well as Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities in this regard. Since it is all about to „bring development issues to citizens“ as Alexandra Allen/Luxembourg Foreign Affairs Ministry put it. Lotte Knudden stressed that „SCOs and LAs will have a major role in implementing the SDGs“ and that the specific value of DEAR projects as the member states perceive it is due to their innovation potential. It was also stressed that in the future we need even “more concrete actions to deliver results” and that there is still a need to „work together in a more coordinated way“ as Commissioner Neven Mimica outlined the growing importance of DEAR and the cooperation between Commission, SCOs and LAs in his statement. Seamus Jefferson draw the conclusion that „we have to mainstream the topic“ and to „involve other parts of the commission beyond DG Devco“. For example by bringing the DEAR event even nearer to the EC, into the Parliament or the City Halls of Brussels.

Personally I very much recognized the presence of high level representatives of the EC, the EP, governments and organisations during the DEAR FAIR. This per se reflected the growing importance given to DEAR and the organisations involved. Nevertheless I would like to suggest to provide more space for interaction, for the exchange of informations and views between SCO's and the high level participants of the plenary sessions in further events. It was a pity that participants after having hold their key note speeches had to leave the Fair directly from the stage. As very valuable I would like to underline the presence of the task managers during the Fair and thus the possibility of an exchange at project level.

Teachers, CSOs and European Policy have in common that they are in the limelight. The latter even on global level. For teachers, SCO's and European Policy therefore coherence is indispensable for its standing and a precondition for a leading role.

As far as politics is concerned it is important for CSOs to make sure that European regulations are consistent – and thus fostering a sustainable future proof development within Europe and beyond its borders. Moreover our European lifestyle still needs to change towards more sustainability. Having the function of a role model SCO's as well as the EC should go in front, giving good examples that can be copied by others globally.

In this respect I would like to suggest to do a DEAR FAIR sustainability check - and to provide alternatives to drinking water in one way plastic bottles and tea&coffee in plastic cups. Let us give priority to organic products, fair trade products and to a reduction of the use of meat. The background: If present european meat consumption would be copied worldwide 80% of all agricultural land globally would be dedicated solely to meat production.

If it is the upcoming implementation of the SDGs, the Cop 21 in Paris and its results, the challenge concerning forced migration and refugees coming to Europe in larger numbers ... It was an unanimous perception during the DEAR FAIR that the common challenges are rising. Growing expectations in the work of SCO's and a stronger cooperation were expressed. As representative of Climate Alliance Austria and on behalf of the SCO's I would like to express my hope that the DEAR programme will be further developed in a way to create the conditions to be able to fulfil the growing expectations.